Assassinations (gen) and federal government; Lucien Conein; Michael Morrissey HW 1/25/75

Laura Kiernan's follow-up story on Morrissey's use of the Spindel company for the manufacture of assassination devices lacks quotes of indignant officials or prominent citizens that federal officials would even look at such equipment. (WxPost 1/24/75)

It also lacks reference to WerBel, which you mentioned 1/23.

I had thought that Spindel lived and specialized in the New York City area.

That he moved to the Washington area would seem to indicate specialization there.

The accompanying pictures shows a number of packing cases on three of which what appears to be "INT ARMS" is stencilled. There was, in Alexandria, an Interarmco, as I recall the name, run by a guy named Cummings, to whom CIA connections had often been attributed. He is well known, as is the company, for the sale of all kinds of weapons. To hobbyists, the revolutionaries of the right, etc. Cannons, too. Almost anything.

Perhaps the widow Spindel found no significance in the name. However, if she knew nothing about Cummings and his company, I would think that she could make out the possible significance of packing crates with a name including the word "arms" in it.

As I remember it, Spindel had quite a sophisticated shop where he had lived.

He got into some kind of trouble over taping and/or bugging.

I had not known that he had moved.

I find it a little farout that Morrissey would have expected to sell assassination devices to drug-enforcement people and exceptional that of all the people so employed he demonstrated to Conein.

Conein, long-time CIA man, might have been expected to be interested for spooks more than drug-law enforcers, though.

That Morrissey could expect to recover the cost of developing such devices in itself seems unlikely. Unless he is some kind of nut.

I would expect, however, that if the CIA were interested it would develop this kind of device for itself.

Little of this story as it has appeared in the Post makes sense.

My recollection is not clear, partly because WerBel has never been a major interest despite his revanchist Cuban connections, but I have the impression that not too long ago a reporter told me that WerBel had told him that he works for the federals only now.